



SAME Mount Tacoma Post **Newsletter**

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING - POSTPONED

SAVE THE DATE for July

WA Military Department Presentation

By Adam Iwaszuk, Director, CMFO

Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 11:30am

Eagle's Pride Golf Course in Dupont, WA

Cost for Lunch:

Uniformed: \$22

Civilian: \$35



VISION

“To promote and facilitate engineering support for national security by developing and enhancing relationships and competencies among uniformed services, public and private sector engineers, and related professionals.”



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& receive monthly updates on our post and events.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Click here to view SAME National Events.**

- **Click here to view local SAME Events.**

- ★ **JULY 14**
Monthly Luncheon: WA Military Department Presentation
Eagles Pride Golf Course, DuPont, WA
- ★ **JULY 16**
SAME Young Professionals Axe Throwing Event
The Axe Academy, Tacoma, WA
- ★ **AUGUST 20**
Steve Woolery Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament
Eagle's Pride Golf Course, DuPont, WA
- ★ **AUGUST 28**
ACEC/COMTO Golf Tournament
Echo Falls Golf Club, Snohomish, WA
- ★ **SEPTEMBER 1**
Monthly Luncheon: SR 167 Gateway Joint Field Trip with ASCE

STEM

Engineering and Construction Camps Update

The Mount Tacoma Post is proud to announce that we are sponsoring two Washington high school students to attend STEM Engineering and Construction Camps this summer hosted by SAME National. SAME Camps offer high school students a one-of-a-kind opportunity to explore the world of engineering, construction, and design—right on a military base. Led by SAME professionals and dedicated volunteers from the military and engineering communities, and supported financially by many including SAME Posts and the [SAME Foundation](#), these camps immerse students in project-based learning that builds real skills, sparks curiosity, and opens doors to future education and careers in STEM.

Our post sponsorship covers camp registration and travel reimbursement valued at up to \$1,200.00 toward each camper. Please join us in congratulating Nathan Garner of Bonny Lake and Lohith Thimmichetty of Lake Stevens. Nathan will be attending the STEM Engineering & Construction Camp in Hawaii and Lohith will be attending the US Air Force Academy Engineering & Construction Camp in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

For more information about SAME STEM Engineering and Construction Camps, or to volunteer to be a Camp Mentor in 2027, contact Chris Thompson at christianthompson007@hotmail.com.



SAME
Joint
Engineer
Training
Conference
& Expo

MAY
19-21
2026

PORTLAND
OREGON

Snapshots from JETC 2026

The Pacific Northwest welcomed the military engineering community to Portland in May for JETC 2026.

The Mount Tacoma Post participated across the event, attending briefings, networking on the expo floor, and exploring the theme of “Innovate Forward.” Highlight events included the induction of Nancy Yee, F.SAME, into the SAME Academy of Fellows. This advancement recognizes members who have rendered dedicated service to the Society, military engineering, and the A/E/C profession.

The gallery below displays post members, partners, and colleagues collaborating to address national infrastructure requirements.







AXE THROWING EVENT!

TACOMA, WA

The Axe Academy
705 Court C (Opera Alley) #307
Tacoma, WA 98402

GATHER YOUR CREW.
THROW SOME AXES.
MAKE MEMORIES.



ALL SKILL
LEVELS



YOUNG AND
YOUNG AT
HEART



WELCOME TO
ALL



FREE FOOD
AND DRINK



DATE: JULY 16
TIME: 5PM

RESERVE YOUR
SPOT TODAY!

AIM.
THROW.
REPEAT.

The Mount Tacoma Post
of the Society of American Military Engineers

is pleased to announce the
2026 Scholarship Winners

The Mount Tacoma Post is pleased to announce that we have selected six winners to receive one of our 2026 Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) scholarships worth \$1,500 each. These six winners were selected from a very tough pool of competitive applicants, all of which demonstrated high levels of academic achievement, leadership potential, and overall outstanding performance both in and out of the classroom. They consist of two graduating high school students and four returning college students pursuing a STEM focused degree. We are proud to support them in achieving their academic goals and wish them continued success in their collegiate studies.

We could not have made this possible without the contributions of our members and the firms they represent. These scholarships are funded by our annual Steve Woolery Memorial Golf Scramble, which is our singular fund-raising event we host to make this program successful. Promoting young men and women to pursue STEM focused degrees continues to be one of our Post's top priorities. This year's scramble will be held on August 20, 2026 at Eagle's Pride Golf Course in DuPont, WA. Please follow our website for more information and we look forward to your continued support.

Please join me in congratulating the following recipients of our Post scholarship.

Samuel Funches of Tacoma, WA. Samuel is entering his Senior year at Grove City College in Pennsylvania and is majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

Viola Healy of Sumner, WA. Viola is entering her Freshman year at City College of New York and majoring in Architecture.

William Kaul of Renton, WA. William is entering his Senior year at Washington State University and majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

Mary Margaret Kranick of Tacoma, WA. Maggie is entering her Freshman year at the University of Florida and is majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

Andrew Cotto-Rivera of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA. Andrew is entering his Junior year at Washington and Lee University in Virginia and is majoring in General Engineering.

Seville Stoll of Seattle, WA. Seville is entering her Sophomore year at San Diego State University and is majoring in Interior Architecture.

SAVE *the* DATE

JOIN US FOR A

Glass Blowing

EVENT!



OCTOBER 13



3:00 PM



TACOMA
GLASS BLOWING
STUDIO





Why join the Society of American Military Engineers?

If you are thinking of joining a professional association, it is critical that you ask yourself “what does membership provide for you?” We can all agree that there is little value in paying dues and investing time into an organization just to check a box. After all, the relationship you have with a professional association should create a connection to something that you can relate to and have a passion for. Personally, I struggled with finding what was right for me when considering membership for many professional associations, but then I discovered the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). My initial impression was that it very much felt like an officer’s club that did not have much to offer a young noncommissioned officer.

I discovered, however, that SAME is a diverse organization that routinely invests in the development of its members. From new member, to the President of the Society, this professional association wants to help you become a better leader supporting the defense of our Nation. SAME provides fantastic networking opportunities, plenty of options for volunteering, technical information through webinars and publications, and even offers stipends to pay for professional certifications. Plus, the membership fee covers the life of your uniformed service!

Everyone can benefit from what SAME has to offer, and you do not need to be an Engineer or have a degree to join. You can volunteer with your local Post, participate in networking events and professional development briefs, and even get a one-day pass for the annual Joint Engineer Training Conference (JETC) or Small Business Conference (SBC) at no cost.

SAME offers professional NCOs tangible value with real rewards, over three distinct periods in a career.

Near-Term: Active SAME membership thrusts us into an environment of exposure to engineering techniques and practices of industry and Military Departments other than our own. We soak up information and knowledge without realizing it, immediately making us better NCOs.

Mid-Term: SAME offers unique opportunities to continue our technical education and pursue licenses and certifications from affiliated associations. Over a few months, credentialing can better posture NCOs for increased responsibility and promotion. Taking advantage of these industry-recognized certifications will also assist with a smoother transition when exiting the military.

Long-Term: NCOs will one day move on from direct military service whether Active Duty or Reserve Component. Most of us change employers but we still prefer technical employment in such a rewarding field. If you want to secure the future, SAME offers the best opportunity for networking with potential employers.

I truly wish I had learned these things sooner in my career, so I urge you not to wait. Come see what SAME can do for you!

CMSgt Adam Boubede

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